From: **Steve Coldani** 

Date: Wed, Apr 20, 2011 at 5:45 PM

Subject: Letter to Commission To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

Dear Commissioners;

I wish to respectfully submit this letter for your kind consideration.

## **STEVE COLDANI**

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April 20, 2011

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Citizens Redistricting Commission 1130 K Street Suite 101 Sacramento, Ca 95814

## Dear Commissioners:

As a third-generation resident of San Joaquin County, I respectfully ask that you keep our county whole when you draw new federal and state districts this year. The people of this county deserve to have their common interests represented by a single Congressman, a single state Senator, and no more than two state Assembly members.

I can say from experience that agriculture is the most important common interest that binds residents of San Joaquin County together. My family has been farming in this county for more than 70 years. Residents throughout San Joaquin County take pride in the fact that they are among the leading agricultural counties in the state and nation; this county grows everything, including cherries, winegrapes, almonds, walnuts, asparagus, and olives. Thousands attend the annual Spring Wine Show and Asparagus Festival. People throughout the county depend on the direct and indirect economic effects that result from agriculture, which create a web of connections between different cities and communities. A farmer in Lodi might contract with a company in Woodbridge for harvesting and a company in Stockton for processing, for example. Those companies, in turn, might employ seasonal workers from Tracy or Morada or Lathrop.

San Joaquin County has taken steps at the local level to preserve its agricultural heritage for future generations, including adopting a countywide mitigation strategy to permanently preserve agricultural lands. But San Joaquin County also needs to speak with one voice in legislative debates occurring in Sacramento and Washington, D.C. There are a host of issues at both the state and federal level in which the farmers and residents of San Joaquin County need representation, including water issues, environmental regulations, and organic standards. The citizens of this county should be able to express their concerns to one legislator charged with their representation.

The people of San Joaquin County are united by agriculture. They should also be united in the same legislative districts. Because the current lines divide San Joaquin County into multiple Congressional, state Senate and state Assembly districts, there are no legislators who are truly accountable to the people of this county. I sincerely hope that you will correct this problem by creating districts that include all of San Joaquin County.

With kindest regards

Steve Coldani



THOMAS D. LONG, MAYOR

ANTHONY M. MISETICH, MAYOR PRO TEM

BRIAN CAMPBELL, COUNCILMAN DOUGLAS W. STERN, COUNCILMAN STEFAN WOLOWICZ, COUNCILMAN

April 21, 2011

California Citizens Redistricting Commission 1130 'K' St., Ste. 101 Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT:

Comments on the Redistricting of the Palos Verdes Peninsula and the South Bay Area of Los Angeles County

## Dear Commissioners:

The Rancho Palos Verdes City Council is pleased that the California Citizens Redistricting Commission will be conducting public hearings in the Los Angeles area over the next few weeks. Rancho Palos Verdes is one of four cities that occupy the Palos Verdes Peninsula along the coastline of the South Bay area of Los Angeles County. Currently, the Peninsula falls within several, heavily "gerrymandered" congressional and legislative districts, which result in the alignment of our communities with such disparate areas as eastern Long Beach (54<sup>th</sup> State Assembly District), central Orange County (46<sup>th</sup> U.S. Congressional District) and central Los Angeles County (25<sup>th</sup> State Senate District).

Historically, Rancho Palos Verdes has been intimately tied to the north coastal cities and communities of the South Bay region, including (but not limited to) Torrance, Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach and El Segundo. We share with our northerly South Bay neighbors a dependence upon a common transportation network for access to the rest of the Los Angeles region. We serve as a "bedroom community" for the regional aerospace and manufacturing hub of the South Bay. We also share a common affinity and appreciation of the unique physical and cultural environment afforded by our location along the coast. Many of the prominent regional community organizations (such as the Kiwanis and Rotary clubs) serve the area extending northward from Rancho Palos Verdes towards LAX. Rancho Palos Verdes considers itself to be an integral part of the South Bay, as evidenced by its active participation and leadership in the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG).

My City Council colleagues and I encourage the Commission to take the opportunity provided by the decennial redistricting of the state to consider re-aligning the City of Rancho Palos Verdes with the north coastal cities and communities of the South Bay—located generally west of the I-110 and I-405 freeways and south of LAX—for the traditional reasons of shared transportation, economic and cultural factors.

Sincerely yours,

Anthony M. Misetich Mayor Pro Tem

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cc:

Rancho Palos Verdes City Council Carolyn Lehr, City Manager Mayor John Rea and Palos Verdes Estates City Council Mayor B. Allen Lay and Rolling Hills City Council Mayor Steven Zuckerman and Rolling Hills Estates City Council